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Botanical Notes.

A Proposed Flora of Mt. Desert. For some years past an Annotated Catalogue of the Plants of Mt. Desert Island, Maine, has been in active preparation by a number of botanists interested in the flora of the island. As Mt. Desert is in many ways a central and representative station for the Maine coast, it is believed that the publication of such a catalogue will be of both botanical and general interest. The undertaking is made especially difficult, however, by many unfavorable circumstances,—such as the lack of resident botanists, and the impracticability of carrying on work except in the summer months. It is evident therefore that much dependence must be placed on the assistance of all botanists who at any time may chance to visit the island. Communications from any such observers, any lists of species seen or collected by them, and any facts of interest regarding the flora may be sent to, and will be gratefully received by Edward L. Rand, 27 State St., Boston, Mass., or John H. Redfield, 216 West Logan Square, Philadelphia, Pa.

Professor R. A. Philippi, the distinguished Chilian naturalist, has completed his eightieth year, his birthday on September 14th having been appropriately celebrated in Santiago. From a somewhat extended account of his life and labors which appeared in the "Centralblatt" of December 31st, we learn that he is of purely German descent, and was born in Charlottenburg in 1808. His doctorate was bestowed by the Friedrich Wilhelms University in 1830. Soon afterwards he visited Italy, and spent considerable time at intervals in Sicily, where he wrote a work on the Flora of Mt. Etna. For some years he was a teacher of Botany and Zoology in Cassel. For political reasons he went to Chili about 1851, was instrumental in founding the Lyceum at Valdivia in 1853, and has since been associated with all Chilian scientific matters. Since 1874 he has been director of the Santiago Museum, and is by far the most learned naturalist in South America. His son, Fred. Philippi, is Professor in the University, and Director of the Botanical Garden at Santiago.

The III and IV Decades of American Hepaticæ have been recently received and among them the following are specially desirable: *Aneura latifrons*, *Pellia endiviæfolia*, *Radula spicata*, *Porella Bolanderi* and *Diplophyllum albicans*. The accompanying circular also announces that but one set remains of decades I and II. Prof. Underwood and Mr. Cook are to be congratulated on having supplied such desirable exsiccatæ. E. G. B.

Raspberry and Blackberry. In vol. xxxiv. No. 890 of "The Garden," C. H. Engleheart contributes a note in regard to a hybrid between the raspberry and blackberry, growing wild near Lynton, North Devon. The fruit is described as long, mulberry colored, and with a taste intermediate between that of the two parents.

Reviews of Foreign Literature.

At a recent meeting of the Botanical Society in Munich, Prof. Hartig gave the results of some experiments on the red beech, in reference to the influence of seed production on the increase in growth and the reserve material of the tree. According to these results, he believes the present accepted theory in regard to the use made by the tree of its reserve-stores is entirely incorrect. This theory, briefly stated, is as follows: A large part of the carbohydrates stored away as starch grains in the outer annual wood layers is used every year as material in forming the new leaves, stems, and annual wood and phloem rings. Prof. Hartig claims to have proven that in case of the red beech only a small portion of the yearly increase of the tree is due to the reserve material, but by far the larger part to the products of assimilation of the same year.

Certain experiments showed that the entire reserve material of carbohydrates in trees of fifty years of age was sufficient to furnish only about five per cent. of the yearly increase of the trees. Other experiments tried on trees of one hundred and one hundred and fifty years, just before a seed-bearing summer, proved them to contain twenty per cent. of the yearly increase. This was proven by taking off the whole number of branches so that during the entire summer not a single leaf was present to manufacture new carbohydrates, and so the tree was obliged to